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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

JUNE 1979

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RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION
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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

June 1979

STATE OF MONTANA

THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
DAVID E. FULLER, COMMISSIONER

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Volume 9 Number 6

Produced by:
Research and Analysis
in cooperation with the
U. S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5. Residence Data - a count of employment by where people live.

6. Establishment Data - a count of employment by where people work.

7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal factor method.

8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six leading indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is in no manner or form comparable to the United States composite index as published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.

9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.

10 WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.

12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

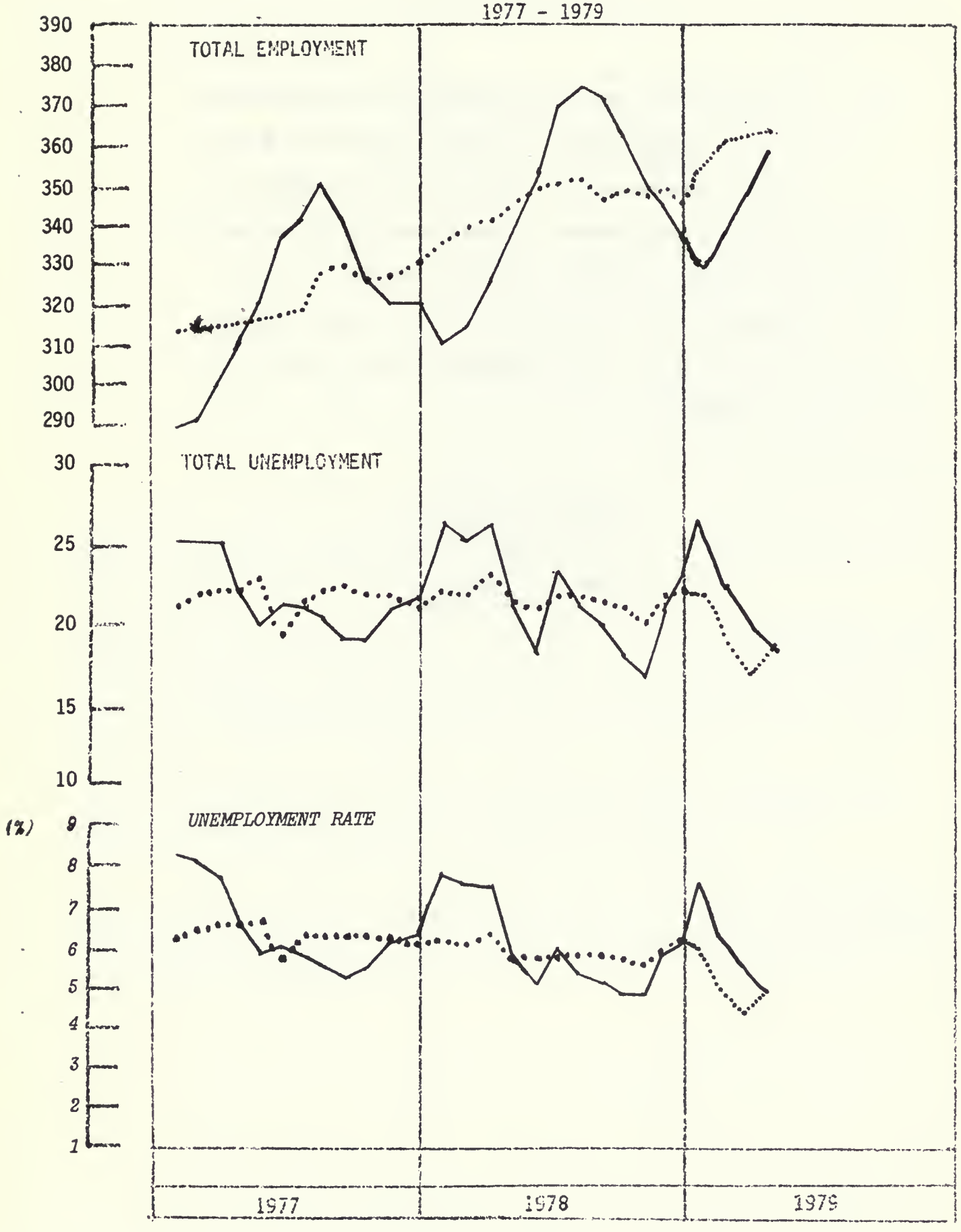
13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.

14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: _____)
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: .....)

1977 - 1979



All Labor Force Statistics contained in this publication are in accordance with the Federal guidelines as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Methodology procedures use a household sample conducted in Montana on a monthly basis, called the Current Population Survey. These official statistics are used to allocate federal funding. Any questions concerning these figures should be directed to:

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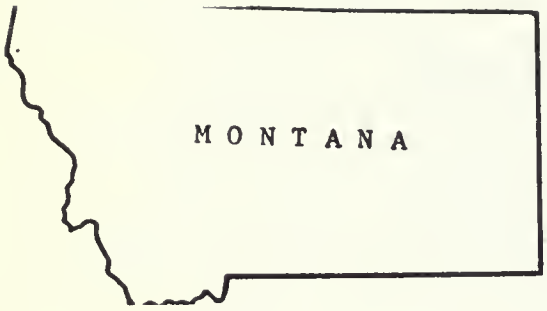
* STATEWIDE HIGHLIGHTS *



Seasonal factors again had a positive effect on Montana's economy during May. The statewide civilian labor force expanded from 377,00 to 381,900 in May. This gain of 4,900 represented a 1.3% increase.

Within the civilian labor force the number of job holders increased, while those unemployed declined. Steady increases in the count of employed have occurred since January. May's employed total of 365,700 bettered April's total by 7,600 and March's total by 19,400. In comparison to May of last year, this year's statewide count of employment was 10,800 greater for a 3.0% gain. Unemployment registered a decline for the fourth consecutive month. The count of unemployed fell from 19,800 in March to 18,900 in April to 16,200 in May. May's count was much improved over last year's count of 18,700. Corresponding unemployment rates were 5.4% in March, 5.0% in April, 4.2% in May, and 5.0% one year ago. All industrial sectors experienced employment gains to account for declines in unemployment. The trade and service sectors experienced the greatest gains, while government experienced the decline.

Montana's economy continues under the influence of traditional seasonalpatterns. Recalls of workers affected by winter layoffs are generating employment gains in nearly all industries. The closure of schools for the summer will cause some school district employees to be without work. At the same time, the closure of school for the summer provides opportunity for family travel, bringing about the resurgence of tourism and recreational related activities.

Temporary layoffs in the finished wood products industry are occurring. The major reason cited for these layoffs is a general slowdown in housing starts Nationwide. At this time, the layoffs are isolated to a select number of firms with the possibility of recalls expected in the near future.

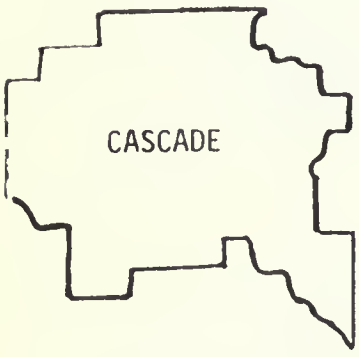
Higher than normal activities in Energy Development, particularly Oil production, are providing communities in the eastern third of the state with an unexpected employment source. Recent events concerning the cost of imported crude oil and the deregulation of the petroleum industry have spurred the search and development of domestic crude oil sources.

A diesel shortage condition accompanied by an organized slowdown by independent truckers has started. There have been some isolated incidences of layoffs due to inadequate fuel supplies and non-delivery of goods. It will be some time before it can be determined whether or not these layoffs will be permanent or more frequent. A careful watch of these activities will be made in upcoming weeks to determine the severity and the possibility of long term effects caused by diesel shortages.

Factors affecting Montana's economy, both nationally and statewide , at this time are not visible in Labor Force and other economic data. At best, these data demand a "wait and see" approach. Unstable movement in Montana's composite index of leading indicators provides no clue of a trend forming. Although employment and new business formations lead last year, the continuing increases in the consumer price index could more than offset the upturns in these data. As the costs of refined petroleum products continue to increase, the costs of the consumer items dependent on petroleum products continue to increase, the costs of the consumer items dependent on petroleum products for either production and distribution will also increase. Information available indicates that a continued increase in the consumer price index is expected. This coupled with gasoline shortages could reduce Montana's tourist trade this season. Presently, there is no indication of a tourism slowdown in the state. Again, even though such downturns in Montana's economy are not visible, caution is a must in examining Montana's general economic condition.

GREAT FALLS SMSA (Cascade County)

Employment and Unemployment Situation:



In May, the civilian labor force totaled 35,800 in the Great Falls SMSA. This was 400 greater than the previous month and 800 better than last year in May. Employment increases followed similarly the increases in the civilian labor force. May's count showed 34,000 employed which compared to 33,400 the previous month and 33,100 last year.

Unemployment registered similar declines also. The count of unemployed in May was recorded at 1,800. This represented 200 less unemployed than the same month one year ago. The unemployment rate in May was 5.1%. May's rate bettered the previous month's rate of 5.6% and last year's rate of 5.4%.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Construction activities highlight the LMA's economic picture this month. Projects starting include a $2.2 million water treatment facility for a local manufacturer, a $3.0 million renovation to a housing project for the elderly, a $1.5 million educational center at Malstrom Airbase, and a new $500,000 structure for a local wholesaler.

Proposed projects include the construction of a terminal in Great Falls by a major trucking firm and a Bureau of Reclamation project of $1.24 million for the face lift of Gibson Dam. A local bottling firm nears completion of its new $1.0 million facility.

Spring seeding operations are completed, including reseeding of winter wheat kill areas. Calls for qualified farm and ranch workers continue , with seasonal recalls in trade and service sectors are strong at this time. Layoffs of school workers for the summer have affected all area schools. Major highway construction projects in the area are underway. Diesel fuel shortages have slowed some construction activities. No layoffs have been reported that were a result of fuel shortages at this time.

Employment opportunities are good in all industrial groups, with agriculture, construction and trade leading in employment gains. Fuel shortages could limit activity in some industry groups particularly construction, in upcoming months. Only spot shortages are anticipated, with the likelihood of major critical shortages being very remote.

BILLINGS SMSA (Yellowstone County)

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

General employment statistics maintained their improving trend this month in the Billings area. The civilian labor force posted an increase of 500 for the second consecutive month, reaching a total of 54,300 in May. The employment component of that figure also rose, with 52,700 persons holding jobs compared to 51,900 in April. The number of individuals on the jobless rolls declined from 1900 in April to 1600 in May. The improved situation is reflected in a 0.6% net drop in the May unemployment rate to a very healthy 2.9%.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A variety of construction and commercial ventures are setting the economic pace in the SMSA this month. Highlighting current projects are a $10 million hotel-convention center; a $630 thousand post office building in Laurel; and a new car dealership with an expected cost of $480 thousand. Other projects which are still in the planning stages include a $70 million office park; a $137 thousand sewage plant; and the $400 thousand renovation of many city office facilities.

Diesel fuel shortages in Montana may have a particularly adverse affect on the Billings area in the coming weeks. As a regional trade and freight center, continuing problems in the trucking industry pose potentially serious consequences for the economy of the SMSA. During recent weeks the majority of unemployment insurance claims have been coming from the construction, service and retail trade sectors. However, persistent fuel problems may begin to hinder employment in other sectors, particularly transportation. The situation in Billings and the rest of Montana should be observed closely in the coming weeks.

ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The labor market area employment in May improved over April's count by 600, to a total of 35,100. Last year in May the number was 34,700. Also, the unemployment count improved from April to May, wtth numbers declining from 2,100 to 1,700. The shift in the labor market decreased May's unemployment rate to 4.7%. April had a unemployment rate of 5.7% and May 1978 was 6.7%.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook;

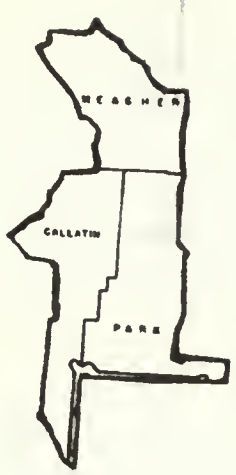
Construction projects are full swing in the area. Butte building permits in May totaled $900,000 worth of projects. The Butte-Silver Bow Housing Authority is finalizing approval on home improvement construction of $356,262. This is the final phase of a modernization plan for the Silver Bow Homes, involving $1.3 million during the last six years. In Anaconda, a $3 million hospital had a ground breaking ceremony in May. Construction of a shopping center is being considered in Dillon. Phase I would be about 45,000 square feet that would contain a major grocery store and 10 or 12 supporting stores.

Favorable weather has allowed forest related activities to improve. Loggers have been recalled and the Forest Service has hired summer employees.

In agricultural activity, moving livestock to summer range and irrigating dominate outside work. In fact, a shortage of experienced irrigators exists in the Dillon region.

The Butte-Silver Bow government has started a campaign to increase tourism in the local area. A board of directors is being formed to initiate the program.

BOZEMAN LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The employment situation continued to show annual as well as seasonal improvement this month. The LMA civilian labor force totaled 27,800 in May, compared with 27,500 in April, and 26,900 during May 1978. The number of employed persons increased by 500 during the past four weeks, reaching a total of 26,900. This figure reflects an annual rise of 3.9%. At the same time, unemployment has declined from 1,100 persons in April, to its current level of 900.

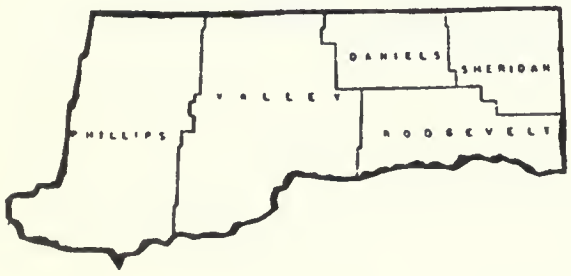
These positive movements in the general statistics resulted in a very healthy decline in the area unemployment rate from 4.2% in April to 3.4% in May.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The construction sector in the Bozeman area seems to be the most significant at the present time. In addition to ongoing residential building, two major commercial projects stand out. The power company serving the region has announced that construction valued at approximately $1.4 million has been started. The work is intended to upgrade and expand the area electrical facilities which have had increasing pressure put on them with predominantly residential growth.

In the city of Bozeman, construction has finally started on a new shopping mall. The project, which has run into various problems and delays during the past two years, is expected to be completed by May, 1980. When completed, the structure will include 300,000 square feet of enclosed shopping space.

GLASGOW LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The LMA's civilian labor force and employment demonstrated traditional seasonal growth in recent months. The civilian labor force grew from 16,000 in March, to 16,900 in April, to 17,400 in May. Employment similarly grew from 15,300 in March, to 16,300 in April to 16,800 in May. Corresponding figures for May, 1978 were 17,100 for the civilian labor force and 16,400 for the count of employed.

The count of the number of unemployed was 600 in May, as compared with 700 the previous month and one year ago, This brought the unemployment rate from 4.0% to 3.7% in May. Last year's unemployment rate in May was 3.9%.

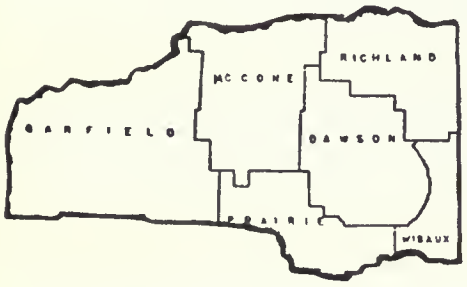
GLASGOW LMA (Cont.)

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Spring seeding activities are complete in the LMA, but calls for qualified farm and ranch workers continue. In Glasgow, an automotive parts store opened and construction commenced on a 52 unit motel expected to open in early August. A tribal housing project is under construction in the Wolf Point area. Highway construction projects have started in the area, with general road repair occurring throughout the LMA. The end of the school term has caused layoffs of several workers in the area's schools.

The employment outlook appears strong in most industries at this time. Seasonal recalls in the Trade, Construction, Service, and Agricultural sectors are occurring. Energy development activities will be more prevalent this year, because of the increased demand for domestic crude oil. Currently, labor supplies are meeting local labor demands without creating critical labor shortages.

GLENDIVE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

Labor market employment increased by 500 in May, bringing the Glendive area employment total to 14,900. Employment was 14,500 in May, 1978. The number of people recognized as unemployed remained unchanged from April to May with a count of 400. Also, one year ago, the count was 400. An unemployment rate of 2.5% was recorded in May. In comparison, April 1979 had 2.7% and May 1978 had 2.8% unemployment rates.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Oil exploration and production in the Glendive LMA had been increasing during the past three years. One major oil company has just completed a $15 million dollar plant to process crude for refineries and natural gas for direct use. A two-day oil fair in Sidney was a success, with an estimated 5-6 thousand visiting. Forty-five oil related companies displayed equipment and field trips were given. The oil boom is creating a housing and rental shortage in Sidney. State and federal grants in aid are being requested to deal with the influx of people.

Federal coal leases for 1981 exclude the Glendive area. Thus, it will probably still be several years before such projects as Circle West or a coal gasification plant in the Wibaux-Beach area could be started. Private land ownership is in a "checker board" pattern with federal land; thus, not economical to strip mine at this time.

Construction projects are in full swing. In Glendive, an addition to the soft drink plant, a new Highway Patrol office, a new showroom and shop for an automotive dealership, and a new warehouse for an oil field construction company are being built.

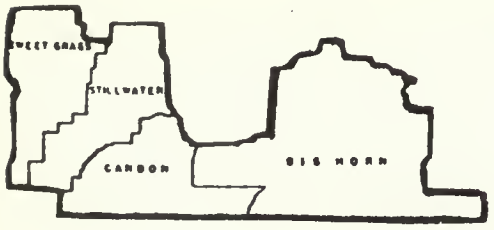
GLENDIVE LMA (Cont.)

Also, preparations for the widening of the main street of Glendive have begun with gravel being crushed and hauled. Work has started on a $1.3 million medical office building in Sidney.

An increase of 60 employees is being made at the Eastmont Human Service Center. With the scheduled increase to start July 2, the budget for the facility is now over one million dollars.

Retail trade and services employment activity is coming close to a peak. Only one area of trade is being affected so far by the diesel fuel shortage, a livestock sale was cancelled.

HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor force reached 13,500 in May, compared with 13,200 last month. Furthermore, the current figure amounts to a 3.8% increase over the one recorded in May, 1978.

Employment in the LMA continued on a rising course in May, with a total of 13,100 persons at work. That figure is 300 greater than the one recorded in the previous month.

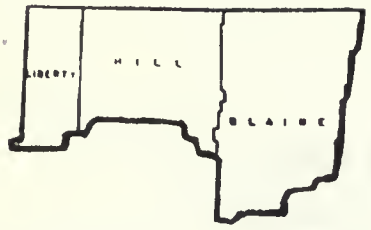
Meanwhile, total unemployment in the area remained unchanged from April's level of 400 jobless individuals. With the increase in the civilian labor force relative to the number of unemployed, the calculated unemployment rate in the Hardin-Red Lodge LMA fell from 3.3% in April to 3.1% in May.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Underground work is expected to begin in July at an area coal mine. A coal company operating in the region has announced that hiring is underway for miners, with general laborers to work on two shifts, once activity has begun on a full scale. Twenty to twenty-five persons are expected to be hired.

With the summer season underway, businesses in the LMA are gearing up for tourism and seasonal recreation activities. Unfortunately, one energy-related question mark remains here, as it does throughout the state. The availability of fuel supplies could have adverse effects upon the local summertime economy; however, the situation cannot be completely evaluated at this time.

HAVRE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor force in the Havre labor market area totaled 13,100 individuals in May, 1.5% below a year ago. The May employment count is up 200 from April to a total of 12,600.

Those considered unemployed recorded a count of 500 in May. Last month and May 1978 both registered 600 persons unemployed. The 3.8% unemployment rate for May is slightly less than the April rate of 4.3%.

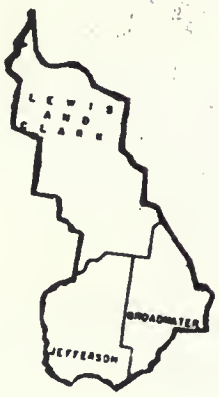
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Wholesale, retail and service industries continue to dominate the economy as the summer activities increase. Construction and exploration drilling hiring has improved during the past four weeks.

Outlook for employment in the agricultural field has improved. However, any diesel fuel shortage will certainly slow down field work.

New businesses totaled 9 for the month of May, leaving the year-to-date total of 43 below the 1978 figure of 65. The reader should be aware that new business firms are only a partial indicator of economic conditions, and other variables must be taken into account to fully determine the direction of the local economy.

HELENA LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In May, employment levels in the Helena labor area increased to 27,600 individuals. This showed an increase of 700 workers from the same month a year ago. The unemployed ranks have remained rather constant, with a count of 1,200 for both May and April. With relatively little shift in the work force, the unemployment rate was slightly changed from 4.4% in April to 4.3% in May. Last year's rate stood at 4.4% in May.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Helena LMA economy outlook remains relatively strong. New business and corporation starts are slightly ahead of last year's total through May. The Department of Labor plans to build a new office building near the downtown area. The diesel fuel shortage so far has not caused any noticeable layoffs. The independent truck drivers were in the Capitol city protesting to government officials.

HELENA LMA (Cont.)

In the area of employment opportunities, clerical workers have the most openings. Requests for good, competent secretaries and typists are plentiful. Restaurant-related occupations are still strong. Agricultural employment is down from a year ago, but some opportunities do exist.

KALISPELL LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

Employment in the Kalispell LMA has increased by 2,100 workers in the past 12 months, bringing the May total to 37,600. April's employed personnel count was 36,300. The month of May had 2,600 persons unemployed and a unemployment rate of 6.5%. In comparison, April had 3,200 persons unemployed and a 8.1% rate.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Hiring activity in the agricultural sector has been improving in several areas. Tree plantation work and Christmas tree farm employment is meeting demand, except for a shortage of experienced tractor operators. Extra help was needed to complete sorting and shipping of potatoes, as well as to help plant seed potatoes. This year's cherry crop is predicted to be 19% more than last year at 2,200 tons. Government agencies, such as the Forest Service and National Park Service, have added summer employees to their payrolls in the past four weeks.

Outside construction in the Kalispell LMA is still reflecting fairly strong activity. In comparison to the prior spring months, building permits are slightly less in numbers for the March-May period.

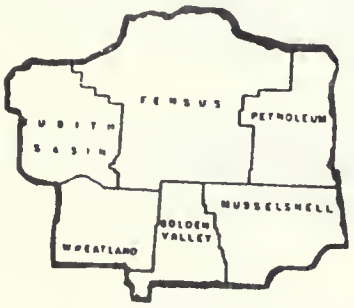
Many construction projects are noted in home bullding and commercial remodeling. The City of Libby shall begin a $2 million sewer disposal project soon. The largest special improvement district in Kalispell's history is out of the planning stage and into the development phase. A 75 acre mobile home subdivision is the mainstay for the $1.6 million SID. The Kalispell City Council adopted a resolution for redevelopment of the central business district. Projects of this type usually take years of planning and rehabilitation construction.

A new lumber mill at Columbia Falls highlights the lumber industry. The new mill is keyed to process small logs. The trend in the lumber industry is toward processing smaller logs to the fullest extent because of the decreasing availability of larger logs. Logging and sawmills payrolls remained unchanged for the most part of May. Hiring should improve as the market for lumber improves. An excess stock pile at a insulation plant created about a two week layoff of 200 mill and mine workers in early June.

KALISPELL LMA (Cont.)

The retail and service areas continue as the leading industry groups. Food service, clerical, and sales workers were all in demand. A new restaurant in Polson shall open in mid-June, hiring about 40 employees.

LEWISTOWN LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor force for the LMA in May was 11,500, a gain of 200 from the previous month and 100 from last year. Employment grew by 2.8% from the previous month to 11,200. This is the same percent of growth from last year when employment totaled 10,900. Both the civilian labor force and employment demonstrated steady gains March through May, reflective of natural seasonal upswings.

Unemployment also reflected the seasonal trend. May's count of 300 unemployed compared to 400 the previous month and 500 one year ago. Comparable unemployment rates were 2.9% in May, 3.3% in April and 3.9% one year ago. The improved unemployment figures in conjunction with the employment figures were sufficient to signify that some long term growth is present in the LMA.

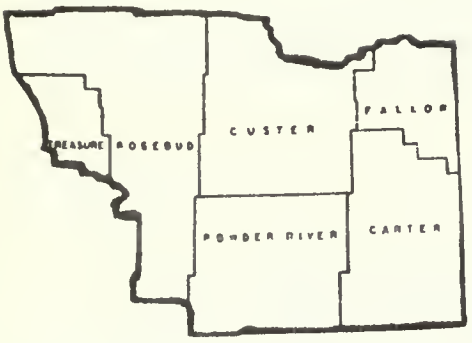
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Most of the LMA's economic activities are a result of much improved weather conditions. Construction activities involving new and remodeling projects are peaking. The retail trade and service sectors are steadily recalling summer workers. Wood products industry activities are at normal levels.

Agricultural activities have temporarily peaked as spring seeding activities near completion. Calls continue for experienced ranch and farm workers in the LMA. Activities in other industrial sectors remain stable. The layoff of school district workers for the summer is starting to occur. Some of those laid off will experience unemployment until they are recalled to work in the fall.

Demands for workers in the LMA have not created worker shortages. An adequate supply of labor is expected to meet demand during the upcoming months. Employment opportunities may be less this year than in past years because of a lack of major projects in the area. Those workers possessing agricultural, timbering and sales skills will do better in obtaining jobs as these industries are recalling workers at a rate equaling previous levels.

MILES CITY LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The employment outlook for the Miles City LMA is good again this month. May's civilian labor force registered 15,900 persons, which compares favorably with the 14,900 recorded in March and the 15,700 in April.

The number of employed persons increased by 300 during the past four weeks, reaching a May level of 15,400. In 1978, employment for the same month totaled 15,200.

Concurrently, unemployment declined by 100, leaving the number of persons on the jobless rolls at 500 for the month. These changes in employment and unemployment statistics decreased the unemployment rate to 3.0%. The present rate compares very favorably with the 3.9% recorded one year ago.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Full scale work on a housing development should be underway soon. The Miles City Government has recently received funds for the installation of sewer facilities designed to service proposed housing in the southeast part of town. The city council had previously approved the housing development, but work was unable to begin due to a lack of sewer service to the area. This project should provide a major late-summer boost to an already active construction industry.

All other industrial sectors appear to be experiencing normal activity trends for this time of year. Shortages of work have been noticed in agriculture, hotels/motels, and in the nursing profession.

MISSOULA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

Employment statistics were generally improved during May. The civilian labor force registered a slight decline, moving from 52,700 in April to 52,600 in May. The current level is still 4.6% higher than it was one year ago. Meanwhile, employment increased from 49,200 in April to its present figure of 49,800. On an annual basis, a 5.1% rise has taken place over last May's employment total of 47,400. The unemployment component of the civilian labor force showed a very significant decline of 700 individuals from April's total. The decrease left 2800 persons among the ranks of the jobless. These changes in the overall employment statistics resulted in a drop in the area unemployment rate from 6.6% in April, to a current rate of 5.3%.

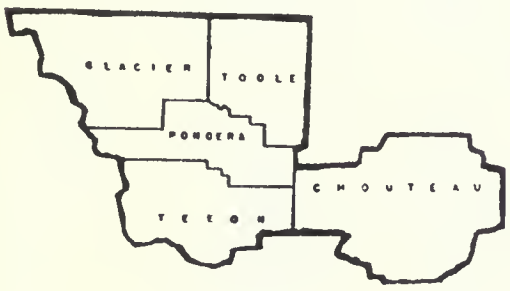
MISSOULA LMA (cont.)

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A somewhat depressed housing market and fuel shortages appear to be having at least a partial effect on the lumber and wood products and construction industries in the Missoula LMA. One manufacturer of building products laid off more than fifty workers recently, citing a lack of demand for the products at the present time. Levels of construction activity in most areas are much slower than last year, and this is having a consequent effect on related businesses. The shortage of fuel is also creating problems in the construction sector by causing some delays in the shipment of building materials. Reports indicate that some construction is behind schedule due to the diesel-related trucking slowdown.

Employment and activity levels in other sectors are generally good at the present time. However, uncertainty as to the severity and duration of energy-related problems may have a significant effect on the economy of this area during the summer months.

SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor force rose to a level of 18,700 in May. This was a 600 increase over the previous month and a 400 increase over last year. Employment registered similar movements. May's count of 18,000 employed bettered April's count by 700 and last year's count by 400.

Unemployment in May totaled 700 persons, which was 100 less than April and equal to last year's count. The unemployment rate was measured at 3.8% in May-well below April's rate of 4.6%, and better than last year's rate of 4.0%.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A seasonal pickup in construction activities highlights the LMA. Calls for skilled construction workers are steady in the Shelby area. A shopping center nears the mid-point in completion in the Cut Bank area. Other projects under construction in the Cut Bank area include low rent housing, civic center, youth shop, pizza parlor and muffler shop. Recalls for trade and service workers are strong.

Oilfield activities are steady at this time. Spring seeding activities are nearly complete with reseeding of winter wheat kill remaining. Tourist activities in Glacier Park are reported as steady.

The employment outlook is good at this time. Shortages of qualified food service workers has been reported in the Shelby area. Critical shortages are not anticipated in the remaining industry groups in the LMA.

MANPOWER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

May 1979

Program	New Enrollees	Job Placements	End of Month Enrollment
WIN	238	138	488
CETA-CEP	78	59	255
CETA-INST.	19	28	218
CETA-OJT	42	15	106
JOB CORPS	47	41	417
PSE TITLE II	87	31	573
PSE TITLE VI	15	30	345
PSE TITLE VI-A	78	29	375
CETA - AWE	44	47	125
STIP I	0	1	0
HIRE II	4	17	60
STIP II	0	2	33
PSE II DAB	14	2	30

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S.[1/]

(1967 = 100)

Group	May 1979	*Percent Change From:* April 1979	May 1978
All Items	*214.1*	*1.1*	*10.8*

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE UNEMPLOYED[2/]

May 1979

Social Characteristics	*Percent of Total Covered Unemployment*
Non-White	*12.2%*
Female	*33.0%*
Youth	*8.8%*
Over 45	*20.5%*

1/ The Consumer Price Index measures changes in prices of goods and services bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers, including families and single persons.

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table I

RESIDENCE DATA

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2/]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1/] Montana	Percent[1/] U. S.	
1977								
January	315.8	290.3	267.7	22.6	25.5	*8.1*	*8.3*	*
February	318.4	292.9	268.1	24.8	25.5	*8.0*	*8.5*	*
March	327.2	301.9	272.0	29.9	25.3	*7.7*	*7.9*	.1
April	336.1	313.8	276.8	37.0	22.3	*6.6*	*6.9*	*
May	343.4	323.1	285.0	38.1	20.3	*5.9*	*6.4*	*
June	360.0	338.5	295.2	43.3	21.5	*6.0*	*7.5*	.1
July	364.4	343.2	297.0	46.2	21.2	*5.8*	*7.0*	3.4
August	374.5	353.7	304.4	49.3	20.8	*5.5*	*6.8*	.2
September	362.5	343.3	304.9	38.4	19.2	*5.3*	*6.6*	.1
October	347.0	327.8	295.3	32.5	19.2	*5.5*	*6.3*	.4
November	345.0	323.7	295.8	27.9	21.3	*6.2*	*6.4*	.3
December	345.7	323.7	299.8	23.9	22.0	*6.4*	*6.0*	*
Avg.	345.0	323.0	288.5	34.5	22.0	*6.4*	*7.0*	.4
1978								
January	338.7	312.1	290.1	22.0	26.6	*7.8*	*7.0*	*
February	342.5	316.8	292.9	23.9	25.7	*7.5*	*6.9*	*
March	355.1	328.6	300.0	28.6	26.5	*7.5*	*6.6*	*
April	365.9	344.5	309.4	35.1	21.4	*5.9*	*5.8*	*
May	373.6	354.9	318.8	36.1	18.7	*5.0*	*5.5*	.1
June	395.1	371.4	330.2	41.2	23.7	*6.0*	*6.2*	.4
July	396.5	375.0	330.9	44.1	21.5	*5.4*	*6.3*	.2
August	393.6	373.4	326.2	47.2	20.2	*5.1*	*5.8*	.1
September	382.0	363.9	327.1	36.8	18.1	*4.7*	*6.0*	.1
October	368.1	350.8	319.5	31.3	17.3	*4.7*	*5.4*	.1
November	367.6	346.4	319.5	26.9	21.2	*5.8*	*5.5*	.1
December	361.2	338.1	315.0	23.1	23.1	*6.4*	*5.6*	.1
Avg.	370.0	348.0	315.0	33.0	22.0	*6.0*	*6.0*	.1
1979								
January	356.2	329.6	308.3	21.3	26.6	*7.5*	*6.4*	*
February	358.6	336.5	313.3	23.2	22.1	*6.2*	*6.4*	1.0
March	366.1	346.3	318.5	27.8	19.8	*5.4*	*6.1*	*
April	377.0	358.1	323.9	34.2	18.9	*5.0*	*5.5*	*
May	381.9	365.7	330.4	35.3	16.2	*4.2*	*5.2*	*
June	*401.2*	*382.0*	*341.8*	*40.2*	*19.2*	*4.8*		*
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA

Table II

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1977								
January	31.4	29.0	28.1	.9	2.4	*7.7*	*8.1*	*
February	31.4	29.3	28.3	1.0	2.1	*6.8*	*8.0*	*
March	32.1	29.9	28.7	1.2	2.2	*7.0*	*7.7*	*
April	32.2	30.3	28.8	1.5	1.9	*5.9*	*6.6*	*
May	32.7	30.8	29.3	1.5	1.9	*5.8*	*5.9*	*
June	34.1	32.0	30.3	1.7	2.1	*6.0*	*6.0*	*
July	34.3	32.2	30.4	1.8	2.1	*6.2*	*5.8*	.8
August	34.5	32.4	30.5	1.9	2.1	*6.1*	*5.5*	*
September	34.8	32.7	31.2	1.5	2.1	*6.0*	*5.3*	*
October	34.1	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.2	*6.3*	*5.5*	.3
November	34.0	32.0	30.9	1.1	2.0	*5.9*	*6.2*	.3
December	34.0	31.7	30.8	.9	2.3	*6.6*	*6.4*	*
Avg.	33.3	31.2	29.8	1.4	2.1	*6.4*	*6.4*	.1
1978								
January	33.2	30.4	29.5	.9	2.8	*8.3*	*7.8*	*
February	33.7	31.0	30.1	.9	2.7	*8.0*	*7.5*	*
March	34.7	32.1	31.0	1.1	2.6	*7.4*	*7.5*	*
April	34.5	32.5	31.1	1.4	2.0	*5.8*	*5.9*	*
May	35.0	33.1	31.7	1.4	1.9	*5.4*	*5.0*	*
June	37.1	34.3	32.7	1.6	2.8	*7.4*	*6.0*	*
July	37.1	34.8	33.1	1.7	2.3	*6.3*	*5.4*	*
August	37.0	34.7	32.8	1.9	2.3	*6.2*	*5.1*	*
September	36.8	34.5	33.0	1.5	2.3	*6.2*	*4.7*	*
October	36.0	33.9	32.7	1.2	2.1	*5.9*	*4.7*	*
November	36.3	33.6	32.5	1.1	2.7	*7.4*	*5.8*	*
December	35.6	32.8	31.9	.9	2.8	*7.9*	*6.4*	*
Avg.	35.6	33.2	31.9	1.3	2.4	*6.8*	*6.0*	*
1979								
January	34.9	31.9	31.1	.8	3.0	*8.6*	*7.5*	*
February	34.6	32.2	31.3	.9	2.4	*6.9*	*6.2*	*
March	34.9	32.8	31.9	1.1	2.1	*6.1*	*5.4*	*
April	35.4	33.4	32.0	1.4	2.0	*5.6*	*5.0*	*
May	35.8	34.0	32.6	1.4	1.8	*5.1*	*4.2*	*
June	*37.5*	*35.1*	*33.5*	*1.6*	*2.4*	*6.4*	*4.8*	*
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table III

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

RESIDENCE DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent*[1] County	State	
1977								
January	48.0	45.0	44.0	1.0	3.0	*6.2*	*8.1*	*
February	48.2	45.3	44.2	1.1	2.9	*6.0*	*8.0*	*
March	49.0	46.3	44.9	1.4	2.7	*5.6*	*7.7*	*
April	49.4	47.0	45.3	1.7	2.4	*4.8*	*6.6*	*
May	50.0	47.7	46.0	1.7	2.3	*4.6*	*5.9*	*
June	51.7	49.4	47.4	2.0	2.3	*4.4*	*6.0*	*
July	51.9	49.6	47.5	2.1	2.3	*4.4*	*5.8*	*
August	52.6	50.3	48.0	2.3	2.3	*4.3*	*5.5*	*
September	52.9	50.7	48.9	1.8	2.2	*4.2*	*5.3*	*
October	51.6	49.3	47.8	1.5	2.3	*4.4*	*5.5*	*
November	52.0	49.7	48.4	1.3	2.3	*4.4*	*6.2*	*
December	52.7	50.3	49.2	1.1	2.4	*4.6*	*6.4*	*
Avg.	50.8	48.4	46.8	1.6	2.4	*4.8*	*6.4*	*
1978								
January	51.1	48.0	47.0	1.0	3.1	*6.1*	*7.8*	*
February	51.4	48.5	47.4	1.1	2.9	*5.6*	*7.5*	*
March	52.9	49.7	48.4	1.3	3.2	*6.1*	*7.5*	*
April	53.8	51.5	49.9	1.6	2.3	*4.3*	*5.9*	*
May	53.8	51.7	50.0	1.7	2.1	*3.9*	*5.0*	*
June	55.7	53.0	51.1	1.9	2.7	*4.8*	*6.0*	*
July	55.3	53.0	51.0	2.0	2.3	*4.2*	*5.4*	*
August	55.0	52.7	50.5	2.2	2.3	*4.1*	*5.1*	*
September	55.5	53.4	51.7	1.7	2.1	*3.8*	*4.7*	*
October	54.6	52.8	51.4	1.4	1.8	*3.2*	*4.7*	*
November	55.2	52.6	51.4	1.2	2.6	*4.8*	*5.8*	*
December	54.4	51.7	50.6	1.1	2.7	*4.9*	*6.4*	*
Avg.	54.1	51.6	50.1	1.5	2.5	*4.6*	*6.0*	*
1979								
January	53.5	50.5	49.5	1.0	3.0	*5.7*	*7.5*	*
February	52.9	50.5	49.4	1.1	2.4	*4.5*	*6.2*	*
March	53.3	51.2	49.9	1.3	2.1	*3.9*	*5.4*	*
April	53.8	51.9	50.3	1.6	1.9	*3.5*	*5.0*	*
May	54.3	52.7	51.1	1.6	1.6	*2.9*	*4.2*	*
June	*56.0*	*54.0*	*52.2*	*1.8*	*2.0*	*3.6*	*4.8*	*
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table IV

MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry

May 1979

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	May 1979	April 1979	May 1978	Net Changes to Current Month from: April 1979	May 1978
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	381.9	377.0	373.6	4.9	8.3
EMPLOYED PERSONS	365.7	358.1	354.9	7.6	10.8
Persons Employed in Agriculture	35.3	34.2	36.1	1.1	-.8
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	16.2	18.9	18.7	-2.7	-2.5
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*4.2*	*5.0*	*5.0*	*-.8*	*-.8*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*5.0*	*5.0*	*5.8*	*0*	*-.8*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*288.6*	*284.7*	*278.0*	*3.9*	*10.6*
MANUFACTURING	*26.7*	*26.2*	*25.5*	*.5*	*1.2*
Durable Goods	*17.5*	*17.2*	*17.1*	*.3*	*.4*
24 Lumber and Wood Products	*10.7*	*10.5*	*10.5*	*.2*	*.2*
33 Primary Metal Industries	*3.0*	*3.0*	*3.2*	*0*	*-.2*
Other Durable Goods	*3.8*	*3.7*	*3.4*	*.1*	*.8*
Nondurable Goods	*9.2*	*9.1*	*8.8*	*.1*	*.8*
20 Food and Kindred Products	*3.9*	*3.9*	*3.6*	*0*	*.3*
27 Printing and Publishing	*2.3*	*2.2*	*2.2*	*.1*	*.1*
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	*1.1*	*1.1*	*1.1*	*0*	*0*
Other Nondurable Goods	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.5*	*0*	*.4*
MINING	*7.8*	*7.8*	*6.7*	*0*	*1.1*
10 Metal Mining	*2.3*	*2.3*	*2.0*	*0*	*.3*
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	*2.3*	*2.2*	*2.0*	*.1*	*.3*
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	*3.2*	*3.3*	*2.7*	*-.1*	*.5*
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	*17.2*	*15.9*	*16.4*	*1.3*	*.8*
15 General Building Contractors	*6.3*	*5.8*	*5.4*	*.5*	*.9*
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	*4.7*	*4.1*	*5.2*	*.6*	*-.5*
17 Special Trade Contractors	*6.2*	*6.0*	*5.8*	*.2*	*.4*
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	*22.2*	*22.1*	*21.3*	*.1*	*.9*
40 Railroad Transportation	*6.8*	*6.8*	*6.8*	*0*	*0*
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	*6.8*	*6.7*	*6.5*	*.1*	*.3*
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	*8.6*	*8.6*	*8.0*	*0*	*.6*
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	*77.3*	*75.7*	*71.9*	*1.6*	*5.4*
Wholesale Trade	*18.9*	*18.8*	*16.4*	*.1*	*2.5*
Retail Trade	*58.4*	*56.9*	*55.5*	*1.5*	*2.9*
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	*8.3*	*8.1*	*8.1*	*.2*	*.2*
54 Food Stores	*7.8*	*7.7*	*7.5*	*.1*	*.3*
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	*8.9*	*8.8*	*8.7*	*.1*	*.2*
58 Eating and Drinking Places	*22.5*	*21.4*	*20.8*	*1.1*	*1.7*
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	*10.9*	*10.9*	*10.5*	*0*	*.4*
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	*13.5*	*13.4*	*11.9*	*.1*	*1.6*
SERVICES	*53.8*	*52.9*	*51.2*	*.9*	*2.6*
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	*6.9*	*6.6*	*6.3*	*.3*	*.6*
72 Personal Services	*2.7*	*2.7*	*2.6*	*0*	*.1*
80 Medical and other Health Services	*16.7*	*16.5*	*16.9*	*.2*	*-.2*
Other Services	*27.5*	*27.1*	*25.4*	*.4*	*2.1*
GOVERNMENT	*70.1*	*70.7*	*73.1*	*-.6*	*-3.0*
91 Federal Government	*12.0*	*11.6*	*13.7*	*.4*	*-1.7*
92 State Colleges and Universities	*8.0*	*8.0*	*8.5*	*0*	*-.5*
92 Other State Government	*10.7*	*11.0*	*11.1*	*-.3*	*-.9*
93 Local Education	*24.3*	*25.2*	*25.9*	*-.9*	*-1.6*
93 Other Local Government	*15.1*	*14.9*	*13.9*	*.2*	*1.2*

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table V

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

May 1979

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	May 1979	April 1979	May 1978	Net Changes to Current Month from: April 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: May 1978
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	35.8	35.4	35.0	.4	.8
EMPLOYED PERSONS	34.0	33.4	33.1	.6	.9
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	1.8	2.0	1.9	-.2	-.1
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*5.1*	*5.6*	*5.4*	*-.5*	*-.1*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*5.8*	*5.6*	*8.6*	*.2*	*-2.8*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*31.0*	*30.8*	*29.8*	*+.2*	*+1.2*
Manufacturing	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.8*	*0*	*0*
Contract Construction	*2.1*	*2.0*	*1.7*	*+.1*	*+.4*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*2.0*	*2.0*	*1.9*	*0*	*+.1*
Trade	*9.9*	*10.0*	*9.8*	*-.1*	*+.1*
Wholesale Trade	*2.4*	*2.6*	*2.5*	*-.2*	*-.1*
Retail Trade	*7.5*	*7.4*	*7.3*	*+.1*	*+.2*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.1*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*+.1*	*+.1*
Services and Mining	*6.8*	*6.8*	*6.5*	*0*	*+.3*
Government	*6.2*	*6.2*	*6.1*	*0*	*+.1*
Federal Government	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*0*	*0*
State and Local Government	*4.3*	*4.3*	*4.2*	*0*	*+.1*

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Current month preliminary. *Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.*

Table VI

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

May 1979

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	May 1979	April 1979	May 1978	Net Changes to Current Month from: April 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: May 1978
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	54.3	53.8	53.8	.5	.5
EMPLOYED PERSONS	52.7	52.7	51.7	0	1.0
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.6	1.6	1.7	0	-.1
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	1.6	1.9	2.1	-.3	-.5
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*2.9*	*3.5*	*3.9*	*-.6*	*-1.0*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*3.7*	*3.7*	*4.7*	*0*	*-1.0*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*46.1*	*45.8*	*44.5*	*+.3*	*+1.6*
Manufacturing	*4.1*	*4.0*	*4.0*	*+.1*	*+.1*
Contract Construction	*2.6*	*2.5*	*2.2*	*+.1*	*+.4*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*4.2*	*4.2*	*3.8*	*0*	*+.4*
Trade	*15.8*	*15.8*	*15.1*	*0*	*+.7*
Wholesale Trade	*5.2*	*5.2*	*5.1*	*0*	*+.1*
Retail Trade	*10.6*	*10.6*	*10.0*	*0*	*+.6*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.2*	*2.2*	*2.1*	*0*	*+.1*
Services and Mining	*9.6*	*9.5*	*9.2*	*+.1*	*+.4*
Government	*7.5*	*7.5*	*8.1*	*0*	*-.6*
Federal Government	*1.5*	*1.5*	*1.4*	*0*	*+.1*
State and Local Government	*6.0*	*6.0*	*6.7*	*0*	*-.7*

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

Current month preliminary. *Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.*

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1979	May 1979	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1979	May 1979	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1979	May 1979	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1979	May 1979
STATEWIDE	366.1	377.0	381.9	346.3	358.1	365.7	19.8	18.9	16.2	*5.4*	*5.0*	*4.2*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	34.9	35.4	35.8	32.8	33.4	34.0	2.1	2.0	1.8	*6.1*	*5.6*	*5.1*
BILLINGS SMSA	53.3	53.8	54.3	51.2	51.9	52.7	2.1	1.9	1.6	*3.9*	*3.5*	*2.9*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	277.9	287.8	291.8	262.3	272.8	279.0	15.6	15.0	12.8	*5.6*	*5.2*	*4.4*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	35.3	36.6	36.8	33.3	34.5	35.1	2.0	2.1	1.7	*5.6*	*5.7*	*4.7*
BOZEMAN	26.6	27.5	27.8	25.4	26.4	26.9	1.2	1.1	.9	*4.4*	*4.2*	*3.4*
GLASGOW	16.0	16.9	17.4	15.3	16.2	16.8	.7	.7	.6	*4.2*	*4.0*	*3.7*
GLENDIVE	13.9	14.8	15.3	13.5	14.4	14.9	.4	.4	.4	*3.1*	*2.7*	*2.5*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	12.4	13.2	13.5	11.9	12.8	13.1	.5	.4	.4	*4.3*	*3.3*	*3.1*
HAVRE	12.4	13.0	13.1	11.8	12.4	12.6	.6	.6	.5	*5.2*	*4.3*	*3.8*
HELENA	28.2	28.5	28.8	26.8	27.3	27.6	1.4	1.2	1.2	*4.9*	*4.4*	*4.3*
KALISPELL	39.4	39.5	40.2	36.0	36.3	37.6	3.4	3.2	2.6	*8.5*	*8.1*	*6.5*
LEWISTOWN	10.6	11.3	11.5	10.1	10.9	11.2	.5	.4	.3	*4.4*	*3.5*	*2.9*
MILES CITY	14.9	15.7	15.9	14.2	15.1	15.4	.7	.6	.5	*4.5*	*3.7*	*3.0*
MISSOULA	51.2	52.7	52.6	47.8	49.2	49.8	3.4	3.5	2.8	*6.6*	*6.6*	*5.3*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	17.0	18.1	18.7	16.1	17.3	18.0	.9	.8	.7	*5.3*	*4.6*	*3.8*

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
Totals may not add due to rounding.

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	May 1979	May 1978	Percent Change 1978-1979	May 1979	May 1978	Percent Change 1978-1979	May 1979	May 1978	Net Change 1978-1979	May 1979	May 1978	Net Change 1978-1979
STATEWIDE	381.9	373.6	*2.2*	365.7	354.9	*3.0*	16.2	18.7	*-2.5*	4.2	5.0	*-.8*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	35.8	35.0	*2.3*	34.0	33.1	*2.7*	1.8	1.9	*-.1*	5.1	5.4	*-.3*
BILLINGS SMSA	54.3	53.8	*.9*	52.7	51.7	*1.9*	1.6	2.1	*-.5*	2.9	3.9	*-1.0*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	291.8	284.8	*2.5*	279.0	270.1	*3.3*	12.8	14.7	*-1.9*	4.4	5.2	*-.8*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	36.8	37.2	*-1.1*	35.1	34.7	*1.2*	1.7	2.5	*-.8*	4.7	6.7	*-2.0*
BOZEMAN	27.8	26.9	*3.3*	26.9	25.9	*3.9*	.9	1.0	*-.1*	3.4	3.8	*-.4*
GLASGOW	17.4	17.1	*1.8*	16.8	16.4	*2.4*	.6	.7	*-.1*	3.7	3.9	*-.2*
GLENDIVE	15.3	14.9	*2.7*	14.9	14.5	*2.8*	.4	.4	*0*	2.5	2.8	*-.3*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	13.5	13.0	*3.8*	13.1	12.4	*5.6*	.4	.6	*-.2*	3.1	4.4	*-1.3*
HAVRE	13.1	13.3	*-1.5*	12.6	12.7	*-.8*	.5	.6	*-.1*	3.8	4.4	*-.6*
HELENA	28.8	28.1	*2.5*	27.6	26.9	*2.6*	1.2	1.2	*0*	4.3	4.4	*-.1*
KALISPELL	40.2	38.5	*4.4*	37.6	35.5	*5.9*	2.6	3.0	*-.4*	6.5	7.8	*-1.3*
LEWISTOWN	11.5	11.4	*.9*	11.2	10.9	*2.8*	.3	.5	*-.2*	2.9	3.9	*-1.0*
MILES CITY	15.9	15.8	*.6*	15.4	15.2	*1.3*	.5	.6	*-.1*	3.0	3.9	*-.9*
MISSOULA	52.6	50.3	*4.6*	49.8	47.4	*5.1*	2.8	2.9	*-.1*	5.3	5.7	*-.4*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	18.7	18.3	*2.2*	18.0	17.6	*2.3*	.7	.7	*0*	3.8	4.0	*-.2*

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
Totals may not add due to rounding.

TABLE XI A

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	MAY 1979 PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	381845	365668	16177	4.2
CASCADE	35799	33984	1815	5.1
YELLOWSTONE	54246	52651	1595	2.9
BEAVERHEAD	4568	4459	109	2.4
BIG HORN	6272	6052	220	3.5
BLAINE	3315	3130	185	5.6
BROADWATER	1838	1778	60	3.3
CARBON	3303	3164	139	4.2
CARTER	916	864	52	5.7
CHOUTEAU	3205	3155	50	1.6
CUSTER	6110	5958	152	2.5
DANIELS	1543	1521	22	1.4
DAWSON	5961	5801	160	2.7
DEER LODGE	6146	5802	344	5.6
FALLON	2270	2239	31	1.4
FERGUS	6339	6174	165	2.6
FLATHEAD	23509	22076	1433	6.1
GALLATIN	20936	20263	673	3.2
GARFIELD	897	868	29	3.2
GLACIER	5727	5327	400	7.0
GOLDEN VALLEY	418	404	14	3.3
GRANITE	1556	1471	85	5.5
HILL	8673	8390	283	3.3
JEFFERSON	2186	2065	121	5.5
JUDITH BASIN	1280	1198	82	6.4
LAKE	9046	8664	382	4.2
LEWIS AND CLARK	24846	23793	1053	4.2
LIBERTY	1149	1123	26	2.3
LINCOLN	7693	6905	788	10.2
MC CONE	1285	1272	13	1.0
MADISON	2305	2217	88	3.8
MEAGHER	1080	1045	35	3.2
MINERAL	1574	1449	125	7.9
MISSOULA	36602	36671	1931	5.0
MUSSELSHELL	1835	1791	44	2.4
PARK	5825	5593	232	4.0
PETROLEUM	339	335	4	1.2
PHILLIPS	2880	2768	112	3.9
PONDERA	3654	3542	112	3.1
POWDER RIVER	1269	1220	49	3.9
POWELL	4216	4007	209	5.0
PRAIRIE	876	855	21	2.4
RAVALLI	8442	7982	460	5.4
RICHLAND	5467	5346	121	2.2
ROOSEVELT	5203	4948	255	4.9
ROSEBUD	4785	4603	182	3.8
SANDERS	4005	3736	269	6.7
SHERIDAN	2733	2679	54	2.0
SILVER BOW	18030	17119	911	5.1
STILLWATER	2215	2161	54	2.4
SWEET GRASS	1699	1688	11	.6
TETON	3010	2941	69	2.3
TOOLE	3067	2988	79	2.6
TREASURE	554	543	11	2.0
VALLEY	5077	4880	197	3.9
WHEATLAND	1316	1289	27	2.1
WIBAUX	755	721	34	4.5

TABLE XI B

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA
APRIL 1979

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	377081	358136	18945	5.0
CASCADE	35394	33396	1998	5.6
YELLOWSTONE	53782	51887	1895	3.5
BEAVERHEAD	4530	4394	136	3.0
BIG HORN	6292	6060	232	3.7
BLAINE	3208	3015	193	6.0
BROADWATER	1736	1690	46	2.6
CARBON	3155	3035	120	3.8
CARTER	903	836	67	7.4
CHOUTEAU	3132	3070	62	2.0
CUSTER	6092	5892	200	3.3
DANIELS	1475	1442	33	2.2
DAWSON	5834	5637	197	3.4
DEER LODGE	6305	5792	513	8.1
FALLON	2250	2201	49	2.2
FERGUS	6302	6094	208	3.3
FLATHEAD	23061	21288	1773	7.7
GALLATIN	20607	19829	778	3.8
GARFIELD	880	834	46	5.2
GLACIER	5585	5122	463	8.3
GOLDEN VALLEY	404	391	13	3.2
GRANITE	1556	1467	89	5.7
HILL	8648	8314	334	3.9
JEFFERSON	2176	2047	129	5.9
JUDITH BASIN	1247	1149	98	7.9
LAKE	8727	8266	461	5.3
LEWIS AND CLARK	24608	23536	1072	4.4
LIBERTY	1100	1070	30	2.7
LINCOLN	7730	6755	975	12.6
MC CONE	1235	1219	16	1.3
MADISON	2217	2161	56	2.5
MEAGHER	1016	970	46	4.5
MINERAL	1608	1454	154	9.6
MISSOULA	38752	36433	2319	6.0
MUSSELSHELL	1767	1721	46	2.6
PARK	5874	5550	324	5.5
PETROLEUM	331	329	2	.6
PHILLIPS	2734	2619	115	4.2
PONDERA	3550	3424	126	3.5
POWDER RIVER	1210	1173	37	3.1
POWELL	4151	3933	218	5.3
PRAIRIE	846	819	27	3.2
RAVALLI	8386	7766	620	7.4
RICHLAND	5320	5219	101	1.9
ROOSEVELT	5044	4808	236	4.7
ROSEBUD	4696	4490	206	4.4
SANDERS	3941	3547	394	10.0
SHERIDAN	2692	2646	46	1.7
SILVER BOW	17803	16739	1064	6.0
STILLWATER	2171	2101	70	3.2
SWEET GRASS	1656	1638	18	1.1
TETON	2959	2867	92	3.1
TOOLE	2943	2848	95	3.2
TREASURE	526	510	16	3.0
VALLEY	4942	4694	248	5.0
WHEATLAND	1273	1249	24	1.9
WIBAUX	719	700	19	2.6

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

TABLE X

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

May 1979

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT					TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
				Net Change to Current Month From:					
	May 1979 1/	April 1979	May 1978	April 1979	May 1978	Total	Percent Women	Total	Percent Women
						May 1979		April 1979	
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers .	126.6	126.5	120.8	+.1	+5.8	288.7	*43.9*	284.7	*44.4*
Manufacturing	3.1	3.0	2.9	+.1	+.2	26.7	*11.6*	26.2	*11.5*
Mining	.4	.4	.4	0	0	7.9	*5.1*	7.8	*5.1*
Contract Construction	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+.1	17.2	*7.6*	15.9	*8.2*
Transportation & Public Utilities .	4.3	4.2	3.9	+.1	+.4	22.2	*19.4*	22.1	*19.0*
Wholesale & Retail Trade	35.8	35.7	33.2	+.1	+2.6	77.3	*46.3*	75.7	*47.2*
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate ..	8.4	8.3	8.0	+.1	+.4	13.5	*62.2*	13.3	*62.4*
Services	34.7	34.7	35.4	0	-.7	53.8	*64.5*	52.9	*65.6*
Government 2/	38.6	38.8	35.8	-.2	+2.8	70.2	*55.0*	70.7	*54.9*

1/ Current month preliminary. Revised to 1978 Benchmark. Establishment Series began January 197.

2/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE XI

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

1978

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	114.7	115.0	116.9	119.5	120.8	123.8	121.3	122.1	120.4	122.2	122.3	127.7	120.6
Manufacturing	2.9	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.1	3.0
Mining	.3	.3	.3	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4
Contract Construction	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3
Transport. & Public Utilities.	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	30.7	30.5	31.2	32.2	33.2	33.7	32.9	35.3	35.5	35.3	35.2	38.5	33.7
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate..	7.4	7.7	7.9	8.0	8.0	8.2	8.3	8.4	7.9	7.9	8.0	7.8	8.0
Services	33.8	34.0	33.4	35.2	35.4	37.6	36.6	34.0	34.3	34.1	34.3	35.2	34.8
Government	34.9	35.3	35.5	35.7	35.8	35.6	34.6	35.4	33.7	35.6	35.8	37.2	35.4

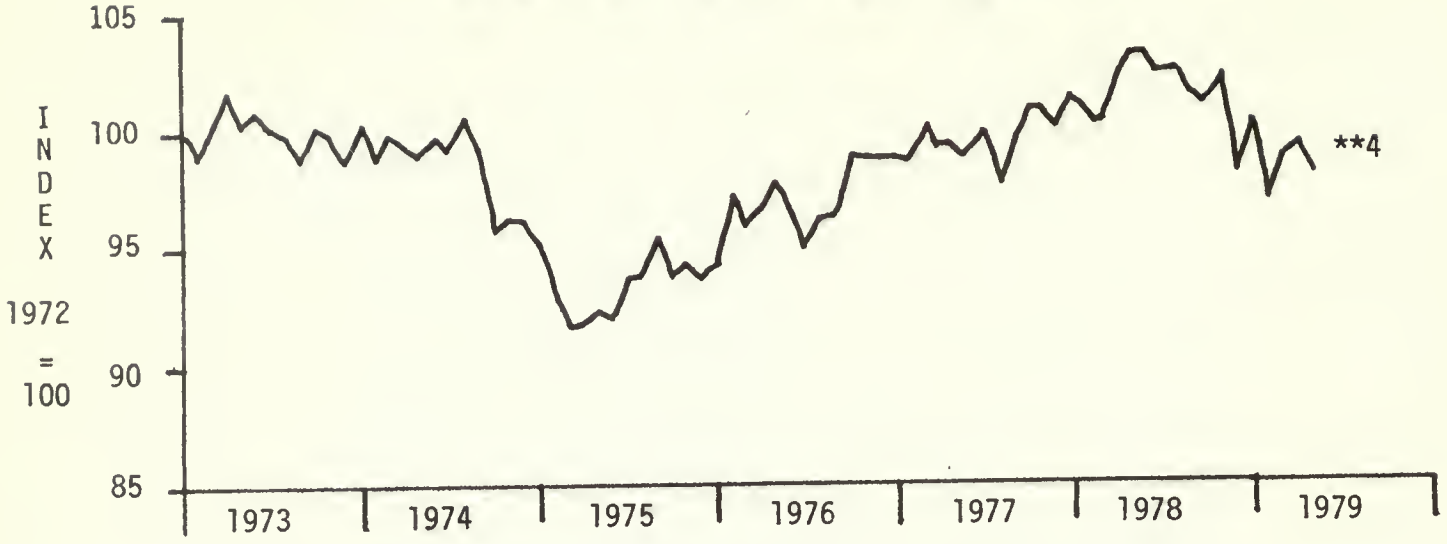
1979

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	126.7	122.4	124.2	126.5
Manufacturing.....	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0
Mining	.4	.4	.4	.4
Contract Construction.....	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Transport. & Public Utilities.	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	38.7	35.6	35.7	35.7
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate..	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.3
Services.....	35.0	34.8	35.0	34.7
Government.....	35.7	34.8	36.2	38.8

1/ *Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged. Establishment Series began January, 1974. Revised to 1978 Benchmark. Prepared by Montana Employment Security Division in cooperation with U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.*

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS*



Composite Index of
SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS

1978	
January	100.6
February	100.2
March	102.2
April	103.1
May	103.1
June	102.4
July	102.5
August	101.5
September	101.0
October	102.2
November	98.0
December	100.4
1979	
January	96.7
February	98.8
March	99.2
April	97.8
May	
June	
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	

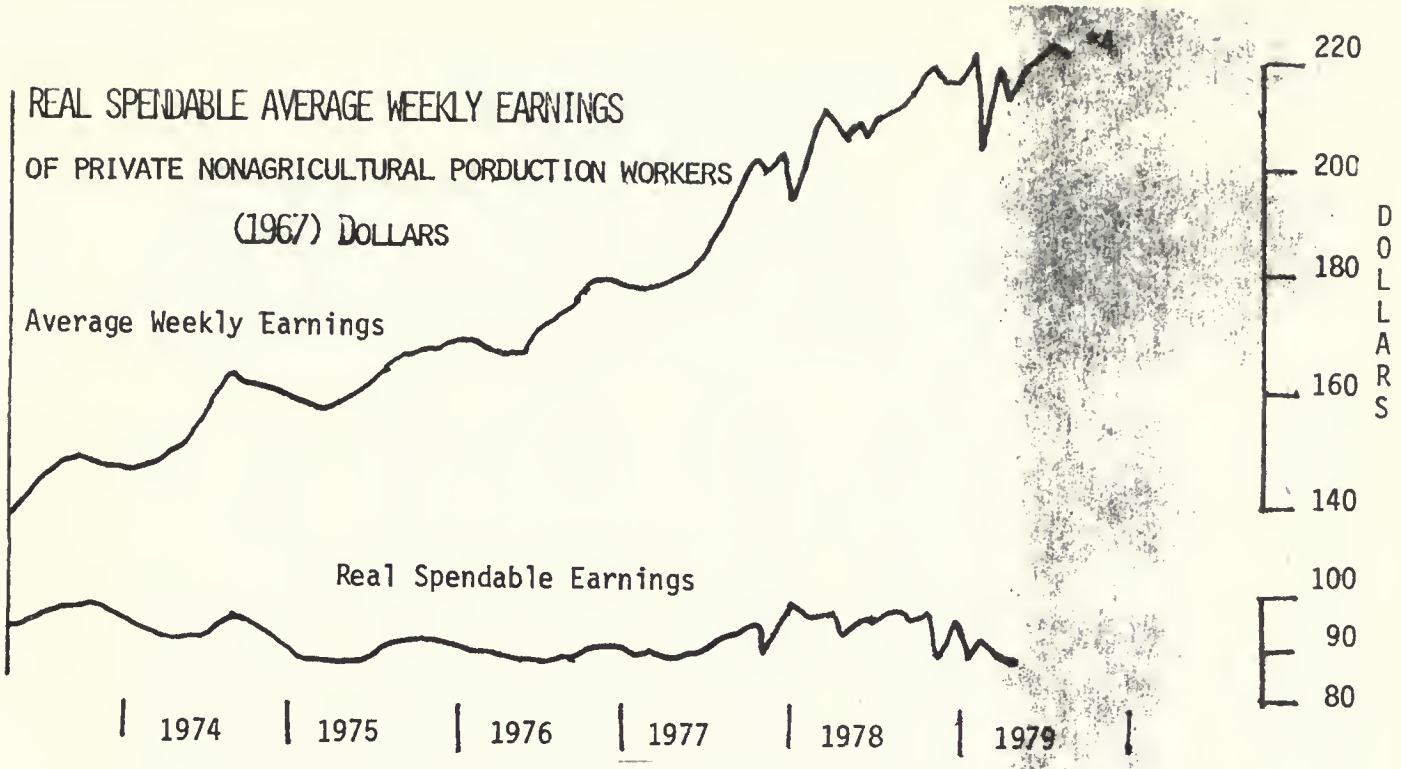
MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

All of the components, with the exception of manufacturing layoffs, registered negative movements in April. The negative movement in the manufacturing components was a result of statewide weather conditions-specifically spring breakup affecting the lumber and wood products industry. New housing starts were also delayed this spring during April, causing building permits to be off. The moderate negative movements registered in the components produced the downward change in the index.

The erratic movement in the Composite Index as demonstrated in recent months provides little indication of a trend forming or why the index is below past performances. It does appear that a slowing is reflected in the steadily declining monthly peaks since October of last year. If new housing starts nationally are substantially less than last year and if lay-offs occur as a result of curtailed fuel supplies, the slowing reflected in past months could continue to late fall.

* *Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits, and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.*

** *Indicates last month of plotted data.*



	Apr 1979	Mar 1979	Apr 1978
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	$220.68	$221.43	$207.77
Taxes Withheld	33.08	33.37	32.50
Spendable Earnings	187.60	188.06	175.27
Adjustment for Price Changes	98.90	98.21	83.69
Real Spendable Earnings	88.70	89.85	91.58

	Average Weekly Earnings	Real Spendable Earnings
1978		
July	217.49	92.67
Aug.	214.68	91.19
Sep.	215.27	90.81
Oct.	218.40	91.15
Nov.	200.99	84.45
Dec.	217.56	89.87
1979		
Jan.	215.42	89.79
Feb.	219.57	90.19
Mar.	221.43	89.85
Apr.	220.68	88.70
May		
June		
July		
Aug.		
Sep.		
Oct.		
Nov.		
Dec.		

REAL SPENDABLE EARNINGS

The decline in real spendable earnings for the second continuous month is accounted for in the increase in the Consumer Price Index of 1.1%. Gross Average Weekly Earnings fell slightly during April. A nationwide labor dispute affecting Montana and spring breakup removed enough highwage earners from payrolls to cause the gross earnings figure to fall. Gross Average Weekly Earnings will show increases in upcoming months as highwage earners return to work from normal seasonal slowdowns. If this return to work pattern is sufficient to create large increases in Gross Earnings, the declines experienced in Real Spendable Earnings due to increases in the consumer price index may be offset.

** Indicates Last Month of Plotted Data* *p: Preliminary*

1/ Average weekly earnings of total private nonagricultural production workers.

2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1] Montana	Percent[1] U. S.	
1977								
January	336.8	315.4	281.4	34.0	21.4	6.3	7.4	*
February	338.6	316.6	281.8	34.8	22.0	6.5	7.6	*
March	339.1	316.8	281.9	34.9	22.3	6.6	7.4	.1
April	339.8	317.5	282.0	35.5	22.3	6.6	7.1	*
May	342.4	319.3	284.4	34.9	23.1	6.7	7.1	*
June	339.5	319.8	284.8	35.0	19.7	5.8	7.1	.1
July	343.7	321.8	286.6	35.2	21.9	6.4	6.9	3.4
August	352.0	329.5	294.7	34.8	22.5	6.4	7.0	.2
September	353.1	330.4	296.3	34.1	22.7	6.4	6.8	.1
October	349.4	327.0	293.3	33.7	22.4	6.4	6.8	.4
November	350.3	328.2	294.6	33.6	22.1	6.3	6.7	.3
December	355.1	333.5	299.9	33.6	21.6	6.1	6.3	*
Avg.	345.0	323.0	288.5	34.5	22.0	6.4	7.0	.4
1978								
January	359.8	337.4	304.0	33.4	22.4	6.2	6.3	*
February	362.6	340.4	306.7	33.7	22.2	6.1	6.1	*
March	367.3	343.8	310.2	33.6	23.5	6.4	6.2	*
April	369.6	348.0	314.7	33.3	21.6	5.8	6.1	*
May	372.7	351.2	318.1	33.1	21.5	5.8	6.1	.1
June	374.8	352.8	319.8	33.0	22.0	5.9	5.8	.4
July	375.8	353.6	320.7	32.9	22.2	5.9	6.1	.2
August	371.1	349.3	316.6	32.7	21.8	5.9	5.9	.1
September	372.4	350.8	318.2	32.6	21.6	5.8	5.9	.1
October	370.6	350.0	317.4	32.6	20.6	5.6	5.8	.1
November	372.8	350.7	318.0	32.7	22.1	5.9	5.8	.1
December	370.5	347.9	315.1	32.8	22.6	6.1	5.9	.1
Avg.	370.0	348.0	315.0	33.0	22.0	6.0	6.0	.1
1979								
January	377.4	354.9	322.2	32.7	22.5	6.0	5.8	*
February	378.7	360.1	327.1	33.0	18.6	4.9	5.7	1.0
March	378.2	361.4	328.7	32.7	16.8	4.4	5.7	*
April	380.8	361.7	329.3	32.4	19.1	5.0	5.8	*
May	380.8	361.9	329.6	32.3	18.9	5.0	5.8	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XIII
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1977								
January	32.7	30.6	29.2	1.4	2.1	6.5	6.3	*
February	32.9	30.9	29.5	1.4	2.0	6.1	6.5	*
March	32.6	30.6	29.2	1.4	2.0	6.2	6.6	*
April	32.6	30.6	29.2	1.4	2.0	6.0	6.6	*
May	32.7	30.6	29.2	1.4	2.1	6.4	6.7	*
June	32.8	31.0	29.6	1.4	1.8	5.4	5.8	*
July	33.3	31.2	29.8	1.4	2.1	6.3	6.4	.8
August	33.5	31.3	29.9	1.4	2.2	6.7	6.4	*
September	34.2	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.3	6.8	6.4	*
October	34.0	31.6	30.3	1.3	2.4	6.9	6.4	.3
November	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	6.3	6.3	.3
December	34.5	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.3	6.7	6.1	*
Avg.	33.3	31.2	29.8	1.4	2.1	6.4	6.4	.1
1978								
January	34.5	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.5	7.1	6.2	*
February	35.1	32.5	31.2	1.3	2.6	7.3	6.1	*
March	35.0	32.7	31.4	1.3	2.3	6.7	6.4	*
April	35.9	32.8	31.5	1.3	3.1	8.5	5.8	*
May	36.1	33.0	31.7	1.3	3.1	8.6	5.8	*
June	35.9	33.4	32.1	1.3	2.5	6.8	5.9	*
July	36.0	33.7	32.4	1.3	2.3	6.4	5.9	*
August	36.0	33.6	32.3	1.3	2.4	6.7	5.9	*
September	36.2	33.7	32.4	1.3	2.5	7.0	5.8	*
October	35.9	33.6	32.3	1.3	2.3	6.4	5.6	*
November	36.2	33.4	32.1	1.3	2.8	7.7	5.9	*
December	36.1	33.2	31.9	1.3	2.9	8.0	6.1	*
Avg.	35.6	33.2	31.9	1.3	2.4	6.8	6.0	*
1979								
January	36.2	33.5	32.2	1.3	2.7	7.4	6.0	*
February	36.1	33.8	32.5	1.3	2.3	6.3	4.9	*
March	35.3	33.4	32.3	1.3	1.9	5.4	4.4	*
April	35.8	33.7	32.4	1.3	2.1	5.8	5.0	*
May	35.9	33.9	32.6	1.3	2.0	5.6	5.0	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*
* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XIV

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1] County	Percent[1] State	
1977								
January	49.5	47.0	45.5	1.5	2.5	5.0	6.3	*
February	50.0	47.5	45.9	1.6	2.5	5.1	6.5	*
March	50.2	47.8	46.2	1.6	2.4	4.8	6.6	*
April	49.9	47.4	45.7	1.7	2.5	5.0	6.6	*
May	50.5	47.7	46.1	1.6	2.8	5.5	6.7	*
June	50.0	48.1	46.5	1.6	1.9	3.9	5.8	*
July	50.5	48.2	46.6	1.6	2.3	4.6	6.4	*
August	51.6	49.2	47.6	1.6	2.4	4.7	6.4	*
September	52.1	49.6	48.0	1.6	2.5	4.9	6.4	*
October	51.2	48.6	47.1	1.5	2.6	5.1	6.4	*
November	51.9	49.4	47.9	1.5	2.5	4.8	6.3	*
December	52.4	50.0	48.5	1.5	2.4	4.5	6.1	*
Avg.	50.8	48.4	46.8	1.6	2.4	4.8	6.4	*
1978								
January	52.7	50.1	48.6	1.5	2.6	5.0	6.2	*
February	53.2	50.7	49.1	1.6	2.5	4.8	6.1	*
March	54.1	51.2	49.6	1.6	2.9	5.4	6.4	*
April	54.2	51.8	50.2	1.6	2.4	4.4	5.8	*
May	54.2	51.7	50.2	1.5	2.5	4.7	5.8	*
June	54.1	51.7	50.2	1.5	2.4	4.4	5.9	*
July	54.1	51.7	50.2	1.5	2.4	4.4	5.9	*
August	54.0	51.6	50.1	1.5	2.4	4.5	5.9	*
September	54.7	52.3	50.8	1.5	2.4	4.4	5.8	*
October	54.2	52.1	50.6	1.5	2.1	3.8	5.6	*
November	55.1	52.3	50.8	1.5	2.8	5.2	5.9	*
December	54.1	51.5	50.0	1.5	2.6	4.9	6.1	*
Avg.	54.1	51.6	50.1	1.5	2.5	4.6	6.0	*
1979								
January	54.6	52.0	50.5	1.5	2.6	4.7	6.0	*
February	54.7	52.7	51.2	1.5	2.0	3.7	4.9	*
March	54.6	52.8	51.3	1.5	1.8	3.2	4.4	*
April	54.3	52.3	50.8	1.5	2.0	3.7	5.0	*
May	54.6	52.6	51.1	1.5	2.0	3.7	5.0	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

TABLE XV

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May 1979	April 1979	May 1978	May 1979	April 1979	May 1978	May 1979	April 1979	May 1978
TOTAL PRIVATE	$221.40	$220.68	$208.53	36.0	36.0	35.9	$6.15	$6.13	$5.81
MANUFACTURING	346.20	334.96	328.94	42.9	40.7	43.8	8.07	8.23	7.51
Durable Goods	352.96	334.14	324.72	43.9	40.6	44.0	8.04	8.23	7.38
Primary Metal Industries	353.98	353.98	316.23	34.3	34.3	36.9	10.32	10.32	8.57
Nondurable Goods	333.34	335.38	340.69	40.9	40.8	43.4	8.15	8.22	7.85
Food and Kindred Products	267.55	265.44	267.44	42.2	42.0	43.7	6.34	6.32	6.12
MINING	457.92	457.45	374.22	47.9	47.8	42.0	9.56	9.57	8.91
Metal Mining	458.50	458.50	402.20	39.8	39.8	40.1	11.52	11.52	10.03
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	351.05	348.39	388.51	35.0	34.7	34.2	10.03	10.04	11.36
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	325.07	329.70	298.29	41.2	42.0	41.2	7.89	7.85	7.24
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	320.98	315.86	291.41	43.2	42.8	43.3	7.43	7.38	6.73
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	173.49	173.20	160.36	33.3	33.5	33.2	5.21	5.17	4.83
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	144.91	150.67	144.00	33.7	34.4	36.0	4.30	4.38	4.00
SERVICES	140.44	140.11	132.80	33.6	33.6	33.2	4.18	4.17	4.00

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE XVI

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

May 1979

	ACCESSION RATES									SEPARATION RATES								
	Total			New Hires			Recalls			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Apr. 1979	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1978	Apr. 1979	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1978	Apr. 1979	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1978	Apr. 1979	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1978	Apr. 1979	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1978	Apr. 1979	Mar. 1979	Apr. 1978
MANUFACTURING	2.9	2.6	3.3	1.9	1.2	2.1	.8	.4	.9	2.8	3.7	2.6	1.2	1.2	1.6	.6	1.8	.5
Durable Goods	1.9	3.1	3.3	1.4	1.4	2.1	.2	.4	1.0	2.4	2.1	1.6	1.0	.5	1.1	-	1.1	.1
Primary Metal Industries	2.3	2.9	2.6	1.4	.6	.1	.2	.4	2.1	5.6	3.6	1.4	.3	.9	.5	-	1.3	0
Nondurable Goods	4.8	1.5	3.3	2.8	.7	2.0	2.0	.3	.8	3.6	6.9	4.3	1.5	2.3	2.6	1.7	3.2	1.3
MINING	5.7	.5	5.2	2.8	*	3.0	2.4	.5	.4	1.6	2.5	.6	1.5	1.5	.2	-	.5	.1
Metal Mining	8.2	1.6	1.9	-	*	.1	8.2	1.6	1.1	-	1.5	.9	-	*	0	-	0	.1

* *Less than .05.*
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Series began January 1959.

TABLE XVII

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggregate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

Industry	1979 MAY	1978 MAY	Year to Date 1979	Year to Date 1978
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	27	36	169	168
MINING	30	8	100	33
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	59	132	323	411
MANUFACTURING	24	26	111	97
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC, GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	19	16	105	78
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	90	147	492	568
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	46	43	226	202
SERVICES	117	127	636	607
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	41	24	67	32
STATE TOTAL	453	559	2229	2196

TABLE XVIII

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS			
			Year to Date	
	May 1979	May 1978	1979	1978
STATE OF MONTANA	453	559	2229	2196
GREAT FALLS SMSA	34	55	169	199
BILLINGS SMSA	79	77	376	340
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	23	40	144	160
Beaverhead	5	5	12	26
Deer Lodge	1	0	7	10
Granite	0	2	6	6
Madison	1	6	17	22
Powell	2	5	7	17
Silver Bow	14	22	70	79
BOZEMAN LMA	30	61	142	214
Gallatin	25	55	131	178
Meagher	0	3	3	5
Park	5	3	37	31
GLASGOW LMA	22	28	122	81
Daniels	0	0	6	2
Phillips	2	0	14	5
Roosevelt	2	3	11	17
Sheridan	4	3	14	7
Valley	4	6	24	15
GLENDIVE LMA	22	28	122	81
Dawson	3	5	25	19
Garfield	3	1	5	8
McCone	0	1	5	4
Prairie	0	1	3	4
Richland	16	17	81	40
Wibaux	0	3	3	3
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	10	18		75
Big Horn	5	4		22
Carbon	3	6		25
Stillwater	2	5		14
Sweet Grass	0	3		14

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS			
			Year to Date	
	May 1979	May 1978	1979	1978
HAVRE LMA	15	20	58	65
Blaine	1	5	8	14
Hill	12	13	44	37
Liberty	2	2	6	14
HELENA LMA	37	41	191	174
Broadwater	4	4	15	8
Jefferson	1	5	16	15
Lewis and Clark	32	32	160	151
KALISPELL LMA	51	74	276	269
Flathead	34	61	183	199
Lake	7	6	46	37
Lincoln	10	7	49	33
LEWISTOWN LMA	8	8	39	39
Fergus	3	3	21	24
Golden Valley	0	2	1	2
Judith Basin	2	1	6	3
Musselshell	2	1	8	5
Petroleum	0	0	0	1
Wheatland	1	1	3	4
MILES CITY LMA	18	19	64	61
Carter	0	1	0	5
Custer	14	10	28	22
Fallon	2	4	13	10
Powder River	1	0	2	4
Rosebud	0	3	9	19
Treasure	1	1	2	1
MISSOULA LMA	62	80	365	353
Mineral	0	5	5	10
Missoula	40	64	266	266
Ravalli	20	8	75	57
Sanders	2	3	19	20
SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	21	26	100	120
Chouteau	2	2	20	18
Glacier	3	4	18	30
Pondera	6	10	25	31
Teton	3	4	10	14
Toole	7	6	27	27

Source of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIM TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs, enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons; to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week and for how many potential weeks is the claimant qualified. Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individual's reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under the Montana Law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

ETAS-150R DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

MAY 1979

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	153	10,391.64
BIGHORN	183	15,038.93
BLAINE	94	6,197.58
BROADWATER	70	5,464.00
CARBON	197	16,106.44
CARTER	9	345.52
CASCADE	3,403	277,360.77
CHOUTEAU	57	4,468.00
CUSTER	171	13,690.72
DANIELS	22	1,505.00
DAWSON	152	13,087.00
DEER LODGE	825	67,529.71
FALLON	43	2,966.00
FERGUS	239	20,289.13
FLATHEAD	3,161	269,193.31
GALLATIN	1,419	109,283.54
GARFIELD	22	1,974.00
GLACIER	439	34,827.28
GOLDEN VALLEY	21	1,618.00
GRANITE	142	10,962.41
HILL	434	33,812.04
JEFFERSON	212	17,668.20
JUDITH BASIN	20	1,749.00
LAKE	585	48,210.27
LEWIS AND CLARK	1,819	150,370.24
LIBERTY	16	1,274.00
LINCOLN	2,020	185,827.90
MCCONE	6	476.00
MADISON	81	6,690.00
MEAGHER	73	5,626.00
MINERAL	198	16,697.80
MISSOULA	3,869	309,077.09
MUSSELSHELL	92	7,824.00
PARK	296	22,673.40
PETROLEUM	0	0.00
PHILLIPS	104	8,975.97
PONDERA	116	9,163.11
POWDER RIVER	18	1,616.00
POWELL	425	36,044.17
PRAIRIE	33	2,368.00
RAVALLI	967	74,184.28
RICHLAND	110	7,595.45
ROOSEVELT	233	17,382.93
ROSEBUD	161	12,915.79
SANDERS	580	50,041.83
SHERIDAN	20	1,054.00
SILVER BOW	2,182	172,773.81
STILLWATER	92	8,706.00
SWEET GRASS	5	265.00
TETON	112	9,499.18
TOOLE	132	10,441.96
TREASURE	12	909.00
VALLEY	287	22,057.42
WHEATLAND	16	812.12
WILAUX	22	1,669.00
YELLOWSTONE	2,675	226,191.97
INTRASTATE	28, 840	2.366.982.74
INTERSTATE	1,171	166,769.41
TOTAL	30,011	2.533,742.15

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
JANUARY 1979 THRU MAY 1979

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	1,341	113,453.16
BIGHORN	1,554	136,455.15
BLAINE	1,006	76,714.15
BROADWATER	672	57,768.57
CARBON	1,686	157,312.21
CARTER	77	5,758.32
CASCADE	25,600	2,191,630.50
CHOUTEAU	567	45,181.12
CUSTER	2,342	206,813.52
DANIELS	136	9,528.00
DAWSON	1,236	112,718.11
DEER LODGE	5,165	447,832.58
FALLON	279	22,959.52
FERGUS	2,403	208,418.80
FLATHEAD	19,373	1,618,870.73
GALLATIN	9,389	761,923.07
GARFIELD	135	11,832.00
GLACIER	4,007	328,406.14
GOLDEN VALLEY	122	10,761.00
GRANITE	904	72,715.18
HILL	3,278	272,178.37
JEFFERSON	1,633	150,245.78
JUDITH BASIN	192	17,735.00
LAKE	5,205	431,240.43
LEWIS AND CLARK	13,334	1,156,579.67
LIBERTY	246	23,175.40
LINCOLN	10,638	923,030.42
MCCONE	135	13,221.00
MADISON	505	35,999.00
MEAGHER	488	36,562.16
MINERAL	1,673	141,803.76
MISSOULA	24,986	2,063,001.25
MUSSELSHELL	686	62,950.00
PARK	3,538	268,895.34
PETROLEUM	1	104.00
PHILLIPS	936	83,389.98
PONDERA	1,458	126,223.02
POWDER RIVER	139	13,285.00
POWELL	2,133	181,742.63
PRAIRIE	353	32,450.00
RAVALLI	6,874	540,306.63
RICHLAND	706	56,064.56
ROOSEVELT	1,592	116,448.59
ROSEBUD	1,688	147,799.90
SANDERS	3,580	299,808.61
SHERIDAN	209	17,633.00
SILVER BOW	13,743	1,152,549.55
STILLWATER	1,061	106,415.00
SWEET GRASS	134	10,418.85
TETON	1,080	89,817.28
TOOLE	1,486	121,380.08
TREASURE	174	14,484.96
VALLEY	2,271	184,553.88
WHEATLAND	112	8,519.65
WIBAUX	162	12,713.00
YELLOWSTONE	23,005	2,032,227.14
INTRASTATE	207,453	17,548,918.06
INTERSTATE	8,719	876,129.75
TOTAL	216,172	18,425,047.81

SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

	1979	1978	Net Change	Percent Change
Initial Claims[1/]	22,666	20,875	1,791	*8.6*
Continued Claims[1/]	253,595	245,982	7,613	*3.1*
Number of Benefit Payments[1/]	216,167	200,301	15,866	*7.9*
Amount of Benefits Paid[1/]	$18,425,047	$15,929,902	$2,495,145	*15.7*
Average Weekly Benefit Amount[1/2/]	$89.10	$84.56	$4.54	*5.4*

MONTHLY

	May 1979	April 1979	May 1978	Change From Year Ago Net	Change From Year Ago Percent
Initial Claims[1/]	2,464	3,767	2,594	-130	*- 5.0*
Continued Claims[1/]	36,543	44,524	34,170	2,373	*6.9*
Number of Benefit Payments[1/]	30,011	38,173	25,626	4,385	*17.1*
Amount of Benefits Paid[1/]	$2,533,752	$3,237,651	$1,993,419	$540,333	*27.1*
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt[1/2/]	$88.10	$89.14	$84.57	$3.53	*4.2*
Trust Fund Balance	$6,214,663*	-$953,915*	-$1,384,990*	$7,599,653	*448.7*

1/ Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.
2/ Derived according to definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".
** Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to $10,484,089*

Initial claims for May were fewer than from both last month and last year, but the January through May total was higher than the same period in 1978. The number of continued claims for May dropped about 8,000 from April; however, the count for this year was over 2,300 more than a year ago. The cumulative amount for 1979 was also up over last year's by 3.1%

This month again the number and amount of benefit payments were lower than last month's figures, mainly due to the improved job prospects with the coming of better weather. Both number and amount of benefits paid increased, though, from May of last year, and for the first five months of 1979 compared with 1978.

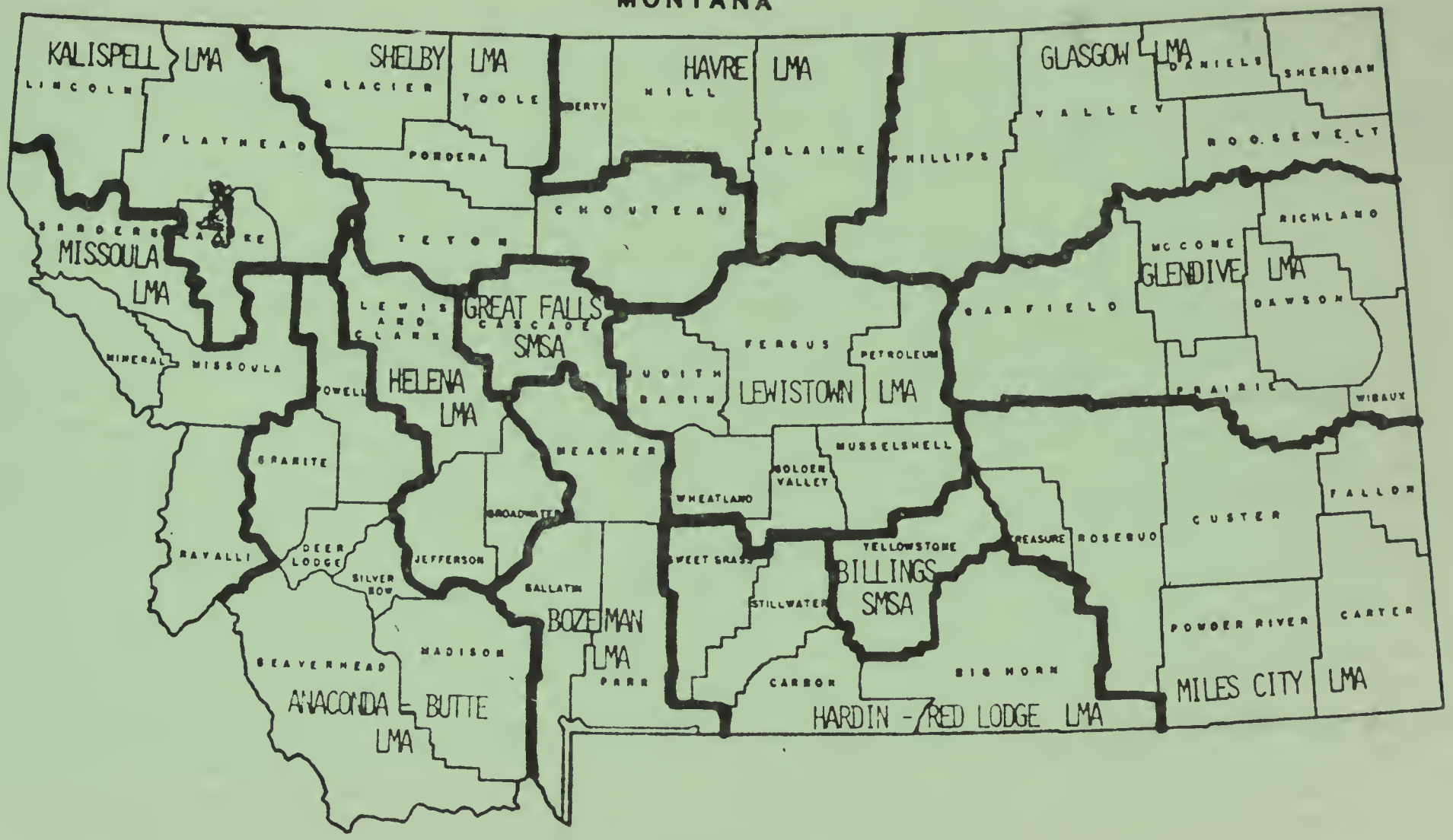
The Average Weekly Benefit Amount went down in May after three months of being at almost the same level. The AWBA for this May was larger than last year but without as much difference as in the last few months. The year-to-date amount continued to record a little over $4.00 above the same period in 1978, as it did in March and April.

The Trust Fund balance rose to over $6.2 million in May, an increase of almost $7.2 million from April. This increase can be largely attributed to the influx of contributions coming from covered employers for the first quarter. This upward trend should continue for the next few months allowing the state to pay back a portion of it's loan to the Federal Government.

LABOR MARKET AREAS

IN

MONTANA



EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P. O. Box 1728
Helena, MT 59601

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
LAB-449

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

The Montana State Employment Security Division maintains 23 local Job Service Offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.